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DOCKET NO.:joey100600np

submitted:

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Respectfully

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DATE: October 6, 2000

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE NONPROVISIONAL PATENT Application Cover Sheet

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir: This a request for filing a NONPROVISIONAL APPL1CATION under 37 CFR 1.53(b).

INVENTOR(s) APPLICANT(s)

Last Name First Name Middle Initial Residence (City and Either State or Foreign Country)

Greeley, Colorado Rothman Joey

Additional inventors are being named on separately numbered sheets attached:none

TITLE OF THE INVENTION: OUTDOOR SPECTATOR COVER

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:

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ENCLOSED APPL1CATION PARTS (check all that apply)

Number of Pages: 10 Yl (X) Specification (X) Drawing(s)

APPENDIX ADG Other (specify)

METHOD OF PAYMENT: (X) Attached is a check for \$355.00

Express Mail NO: EL548279733US

Date of Deposit: October 6, 2000

I hereby certify that the above is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service pursuant to 37 .C.F.R. 1.10 on the date

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for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

DAVID SWOKONOFF

02-19-98REV1

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SERIAL NO .: APPLICANT: JOEY ROTHMAN

FILED: OCTOBER 1/2 2000 X

GROUP:

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TITLE: OUTDOOR SPECTATOR COVER

DECLARATION BY INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS

I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) for the purpose of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, with regard to the invention described in the heading above or the specification filed herewith, as the case may be.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d), or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d) or a nonprofit corporation under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below: NONE

I acknowledge the duty to file in this application or patent notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee due or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signature

<u>Date:</u> October, 16 2000.

Post Office Address: 6516 26th Street, Greeley, CO 80634

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Background of the Invention

The present invention relates to the invention of a novel cover which encloses the lower portion of the body of a person who is exposed to the cold and sometimes wet conditions which obtain at sporting events such as football or soccer games or any other outdoor activity. The present application claims priority based upon provisional patent application 60/209404, D filed JUNE 1, 2000 by the same inventor as this application.

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to the field of protective devices or garments primarily intended for use by spectators at sporting events. Many of such sporting events are presented in large stadiums designed to hold tens of thousands of people on floor and seats of concrete, metal, wood, or other hard heat conducting surfaces. In many such outdoor stadiums, the stadium receives heavy snow or rain or both and the depth of moisture in the stadium is often more than six inches. For this reason, waterproofing to at least that depth is exceedingly important for a spectator cover.

Description of the Prior Art

The closest prior art known to the applicant is shown in U.S. patents 5,283,909 and 3,597,764 and 2,242,130. None of these patents shows either the physical structure or the function taught by the present invention. In particular no known structure for such a personal cover shows the combination of flexibility, warmth, and waterproof qualities necessary for

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the active spectator. The bottom of the cover on which the feet of the spectator rest must be flexible for the spectator to remain properly balanced while moving, stomping and cheering yet The present invention meets all of these dry and warm. The present invention permits the spectator who is wearing the cover to retain a tactile sense of the surface on which he or she is standing through the very thin bottom surface of the cover which is highly flexible yet waterproof.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention teaches, in two embodiments, novel spectator covers, generally made of a soft flexible, insulated, waterproof or water resistant material. The present inventive cover must retain sufficient flexibility to enable the user to retain his or her balance in an environment where the spectator is physically active in cheering and mobile enough to permit other spectators to pass by him or her in moving across the row of seats commonly found in a modern sports arena.

Brief Description of the Drawings Figures 1 shows a front perspective view of one embodiment

of the present invention.

Figures 2 and 3 are front perspective views embodiment shown in Figures 1 showing the upper and portion of the present invention.

Figure 4 is a sectional view of the lower portion of the present invention taken along the lines 4-4 shown in Figure 3.

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Figure 5 is a partial perspective view of the upper portion of the present invention showing a second embodiment of the upper portion of the invention.

Figure 6 is front perspective view of the present invention in its carrying cover forming part of the present invention.

Description of the Preferred Embodiment

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a first embodiment of the present invention in which a novel cover 10 for a spectator at a sporting or other outdoor event is shown. The cover has a generally tubular or cylindrical shape open at one end and closed at the other end and having about a twenty inch diameter and an axial length of about forty-five inches. The lower portion of the cylinder 15 is formed of a two-part multi-layer material with a waterproof base of about twenty inches in diameter and eight inches in axial length when finished. waterproof base has an inner insulated layer 44 as shown in The outer layer 40 may be a vinyl or plastic and the inner layer may be wool, cotton, or any other insulating material. The lower portion of the base is formed from an essentially flat circular member 16. The upper portion of the base 14 is formed from a similar material as the lower portion but shaped in a rectangular form such that when attached to the base it forms a cylinder about eight inches in axial length and about twenty inches in diameter closed at one end-

The upper portion of the bag ll is formed of a wind and water resistant material such a dense or tightly woven nylon material for an outer layer l2. Upper portion ll also has an inner layer l3 of double sided fleece material of wool, cotton, or other suitable fabric which is both soft and flexible.

The upper portion 11 of the bag is able to be opened along the major part of its axial length to permit the user easy entry to the bag as shown in Figure 2 and attached Appendix A inside front cover which is hereby incorporated by reference into this application. Along the axial portion of the bag on either side of the opening are mating hook and loop fastening material 28 and 29 (although a zipper or other fastener could be substituted for the hook and loop closure).

At the other end of the bag, away from the base 15 is formed, usually by sewing, a runway 22 through which runs a cord 24 formed of polyester or nylon. The cord exists the runway either at the ends thereof 21,23 or through eyelits 123, 125 shown in Figure 5 formed in the runway at both ends. If the eyelits 21, 23 are employed, the ends of the runway 22 are closed as shown in Figure 5. The cord has a "barrel stop" 30 or similar termination to prevent the cord from sliding into the stitched runway.

A plurality of pockets 20 and 50 are attached to the bag. One pocket 50 is inside the bag at the upper or waist level and the other 20 on the outside of the bag at a level between onethird to one-quarter the distance from the base of the bag.

Either or both pockets 20,50 may be closed by either a mating hook and loop closure 54, 52 or any other suitable closing structure.

The entire bag is able to be fitted in a carry bag 60, shown in Figure 6, cylindrical in shape, with a rimmed top 64 with a runway 66 which has an opening 68 for a two cord shoulder strap 62 which acts as a closure for the carry bag. A clasp 70 is attached to the carry bag to enable its attachment to the bag while the bag is itself in use.

The embodiments of the present invention which have been shown and described are illustrative of the main principles of the invention but the following claims shall not be limited to the embodiments shown. The claims are intended to cover and do cover those variations of the invention which are apparent to those skilled in the art.

Claims

I claim:

L. A cover for a spectator at sporting events comprising:

a first soft, flexible cylindrical upper member having an inside and outside member in which the upper member is able to be opened and closed to permit the insertion of the lower portion of the body of the spectator;

the upper member outside member is formed of a wind and water resistant material and the inside member formed of a heat insulating material;

the upper member has near its upper end a runway member to receive a closure member for closing the upper member tightly about the body of the spectator;

a waterproof base member is attached to the first upper member and is formed of a first circular portion and and a first rectangular portion which are fixed together to form a very thin bottom for the spectator cover;

the base portions are both formed in two layers, a first waterproof layer and a second insulating layer, such that the base member is sufficiently flexible and thin so that the spectator can walk while wearing the cover without losing his or her balance because the spectator does not lose the sense of touch of the surface on which he or she is walking.

The spectator cover claimed in claim 1 wherein:

The upper member is open at the end opposite the base member wherein the opening is closable by hook and loop fastener members fixed on each side of the opening.

- 3. The spectator cover claimed in claim 1 wherein the base member extends upwardly toward the open end of the cover about one-fifth of the total length of the cover to provide a waterproof cover of sufficient depth.
- 4. The spectator cover claimed in claim 1 including further a carry bag member adapted to contain the spectator cover having a closure means at the upper end of the carry bag and a hook for attaching the carry bag to the spectator cover.
- 5. The spectator cover claimed in claim 1 wherein the base member is waterproof to at least an eight inch depth.

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Abstract

A novel cover for a spectator at a sporting or other outdoor event having a generally tubular or cylindrical shape open at one end and closed at the other end having an approximate twenty inch diameter and a axial length of about forty-five inches when The lower portion of the cylinder is formed of a finished. multi-layer material with a waterproof base of about twenty inches in axial length when and eight diameter inches in The waterproof base has an inner insulated layer. finished. The outer layer may be of vinyl or plastic and the inner layer may be wool, cotton, or any other insulating material.

The upper portion of the bag is formed of a wind and water resistant material such a dense or tightly woven nylon material for an outer layer and double sided fleece material formed of wool, cotton, or other suitable fabric which is both soft and flexible.

The upper portion of the bag is kept open along the major part of its axial length to permit the user easy entry to the bag. Along the axial portion of the bag on either side of the opening are mating hook and loop fastening material (although a zipper could be substituted for the hook and loop closure.

At the other end of the bag, away from the base is formed, usually by sewing, a runway through which runs a cord formed of polyester or nylon. The cord exits the runway either at the end thereof or through eyelits formed in the outer surface of the

runway at either end thereof. The cord has a "barrel stop" or similar termination to prevent the cord from sliding into the stitched runway.

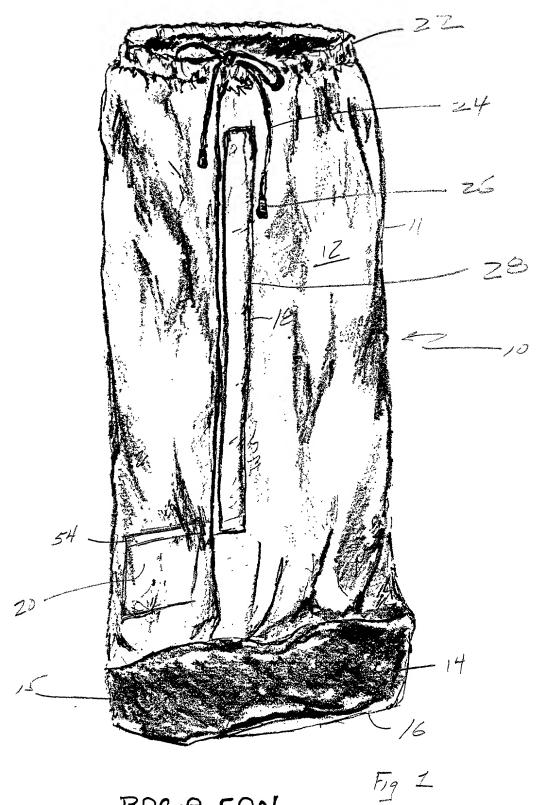
A plurality of pockets are attached to the bag. One pocket is inside the bag at the upper or waist level and the other on the outside of the bag at a level between one-third to one-quarter the distance from the base of the bag. Either or both pockets may be closed by either a mating hook and loop closure or any other suitable closing structure.

The entire bag is able to be fitted in a carry bag, cylindrical in shape, with a rimmed top for a two cord shoulder strap which acts as a closure for the carry bag. A clasp is attached to the carry bag to enable its attachment to the bag while the bag is itself in use.

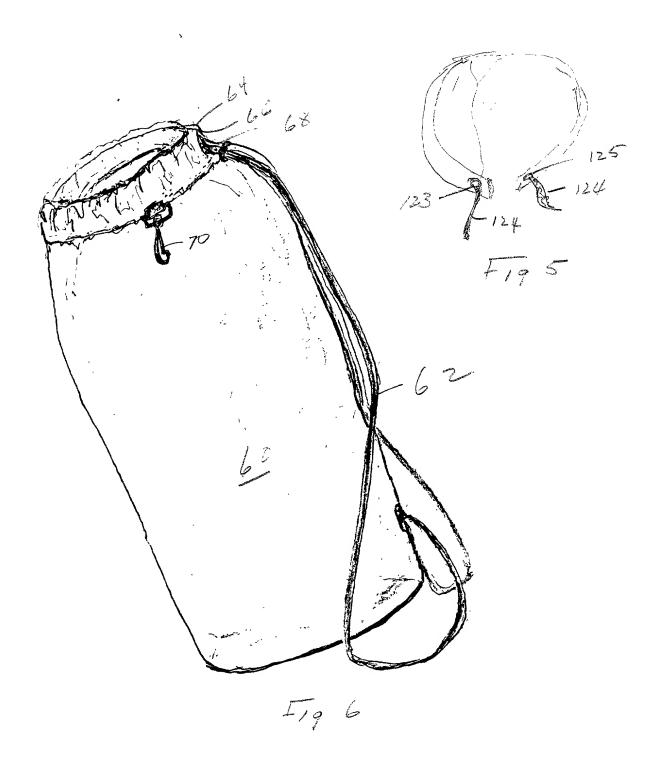
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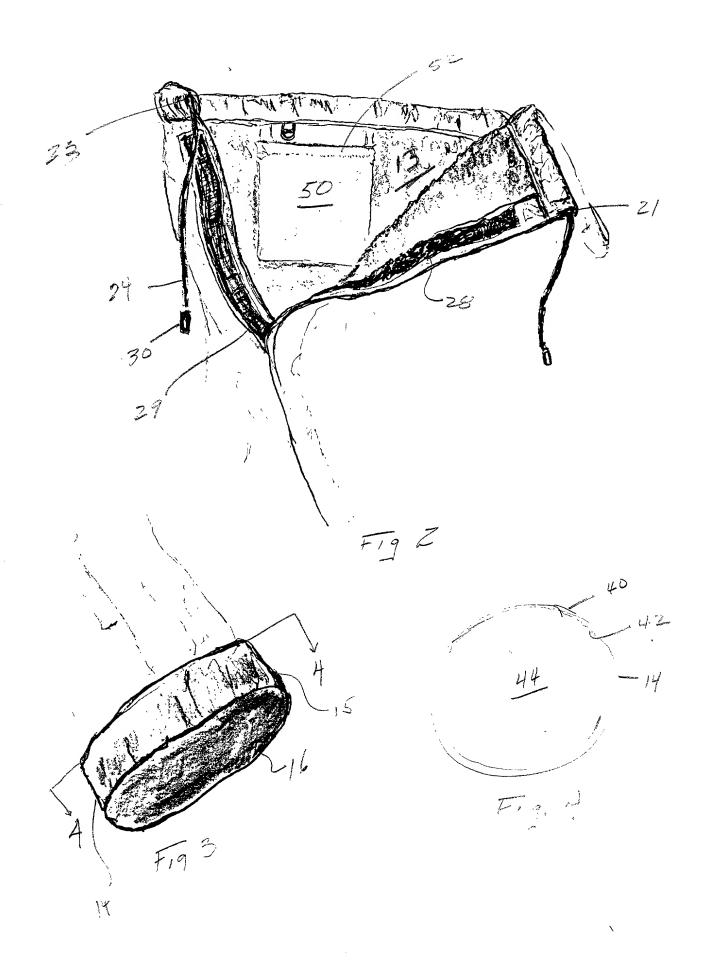
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DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare: 2

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor, if only one name is listed below, or an original, first and joint inventor, if plural names are listed below of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled OUTDOOR SPECTATOR COVER, the specification of which is attached hereto or was filed on: ATTACHED.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification and claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge my duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119 of any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and I have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is based: NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C 120 of any United States patent application listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States patent application in the manner provided by 35 U.S.C 112, first paragraph, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior applications and the national or PCT international filing date of this application: 60/209404, FILED JUNE 1, 2000.

I hereby appoint DAVID S. WORONOFF, Reg. No. 22673, attorney to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please address all correspondence to: DAVID S. WORONOFF, 500 CASTLE MOUNTAIN ROAD, LIVERMORE, CO 80536. Please address all telephone calls to DAVID S. WORONOFF AT (970) 472-1776.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Inventor's signature: Full name of sole or first inventor: JOEY ROTHMAN Citizenship: U.S.A.; Residence: Greeley, Colorado

Post Office Address: 6516 26th Street, Greeley, CO 80634

Date: October 10, 2000.